

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2 and 6 are rejected under 35 USC 102(b) as anticipated by Matthews et al. Claim 6 has been amended above to more positively recite that the caliper block is to be fixed vertically relative to the door. Both claims 1 and 6 define a door braking device that includes a caliper block to be fixed relative to the door it operates with. Matthews et al. neither anticipate nor suggest this construction. In contrast to applicants' invention, Matthews et al. teach that a caliper block 30 is constructed and arranged to move relative to the door. This is demonstrated by a comparison of FIGS. 3 and 4 of Matthews et al. A disadvantage of Matthews et al. is that the device can be relatively slow in reacting since the spring 60 must overcome the inertia of the caliper block 30 in order to effectuate braking action. This potential slow response is avoided by applicants' invention since the caliper block does not have to be moved by a spring.

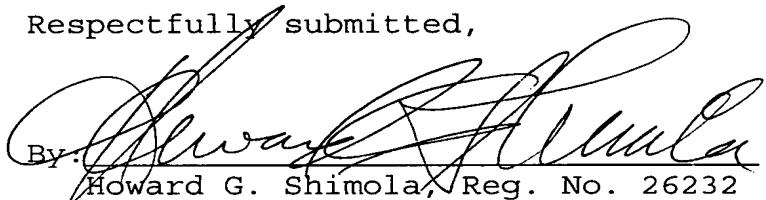
Claims 1 through 6 have been rejected under 35 USC 103(a) as unpatentable over Berkovitz in view of Abbott. Independent claims 1 and 6 recite the existence of a caliper block "that extends over opposed vertical faces of the adjacent guide rail" (claim 1) or "having a slot for receiving a door guide rail" (claim 6). Neither Abbott nor Berkovitz has a caliper block as disclosed and

claimed by applicants and, therefore, cannot render applicants' invention obvious.

For all of the above reasons, independent claims 1 and 6 are allowable, and dependent claims 2 - 5 are patentably distinguishable over the art of record for the reasons set out above in connection with parent claim 1 and the further structural and functional details recited in their respective claims.

If there are any fees required by this communication, please charge the same to Deposit Account No. 16-0820, Order No. 35340.

Respectfully submitted,



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